

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for preparing binary or ternary inorganic nanoparticles for use, from a mixture of nanoparticles with another material, the method comprising washing the mixture with a solvent to remove the said other material and form a solution of nanoparticles disaggregated in the solvent, including separating at least a first fraction of the nanoparticles from a mixture of the solvent and the said other material, and wherein the separation is performed by dialysis.
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
- 6 (currently amended) A method ~~as claimed in claim 2~~ for preparing binary or ternary inorganic nanoparticles for use, from a mixture of nanoparticles with another material, the method comprising washing the mixture with a solvent to remove the said other material and form a solution of nanoparticles disaggregated in the solvent, including separating at least a first fraction of the nanoparticles from a mixture of the solvent and the said other material, and wherein in the separation step the said first fraction of the nanoparticles are separated from another fraction of the nanoparticles.
7. (original) A method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the nanoparticles of the said other fraction are relatively small in comparison to the nanoparticles of the first fraction.

8. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the said other material is a by-product of the formation of the nanoparticles.
9. (currently amended) A method ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ for preparing binary or ternary inorganic nanoparticles for use, from a mixture of nanoparticles with another material, the method comprising washing the mixture with a solvent to remove the said other material and form a solution of nanoparticles disaggregated in the solvent, and wherein the said other material comprises a surfactant.
10. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent is an organic solvent.
11. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent is an alcohol.
12. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent is one in which the said other material is preferentially soluble to the nanoparticles.
14. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent is a polar solvent.
15. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the nanoparticles are generally smaller than 50 nm in diameter.
16. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the solvent is such as to hold the dissolved nanoparticles in a disaggregated state.
17. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, comprising adding a surface modifying agent to the solution of nanoparticles.

18. (currently amended) A method ~~as claimed in claim 17~~ for preparing binary or ternary inorganic nanoparticles for use, from a mixture of nanoparticles with another material, the method comprising washing the mixture with a solvent to remove the said other material and form a solution of nanoparticles disaggregated in the solvent, including adding a surface modifying agent to the solution of nanoparticles, and wherein the surface modifying agent is a dye.

19. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the nanoparticles are light transmissive.

20. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the nanoparticles are non-conductive.

21. (currently amended) A method ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ for preparing binary or ternary inorganic nanoparticles for use, from a mixture of nanoparticles with another material, the method comprising washing the mixture with a solvent to remove the said other material and form a solution of nanoparticles disaggregated in the solvent, and ~~comprising~~ adding the solution of nanoparticles to a polymer precursor.

22. (original) A method as claimed in claim 21, comprising converting the polymer precursor to form a polymer body containing a substantially uniform dispersion of nanoparticles.

23. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 21, comprising treating the polymer to render it insoluble in the solvent.

24. (canceled)

25. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic polymer precursor material containing nanoparticles, formed by a method according to claim 21.

26. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic polymer material comprising a substantially uniform dispersion of nanoparticles, formed by a method according to claim 1.
27. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic polymer material containing a substantially uniform dispersion of nanoparticles, formed by a method according to claim 22.
28. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic material containing a substantially uniform dispersion of nanoparticles.
29. (canceled)
30. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic material as claimed in claim 28, wherein the presence of the nanoparticles influences at least one material property of the conjugated semiconductive-organic material.
31. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic material as claimed in claim 30, wherein the said property is an optical and/or an electronic property.
32. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic material as claimed in claim 31, wherein the said property is a refractive index.
33. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic material as claimed in claim 28, wherein the nanoparticles have a surface coating.
34. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic material as claimed in claim 33, wherein the surface coating is of a material that influences at least one optical and/or electrical property of the conjugated semiconductive-organic material and/or influences the interaction of the nanoparticles with the conjugated semiconductive-organic material.

35. (currently amended) A method for tailoring at least one property of a conjugated semiconductive-organic material, the method comprising forming a substantially uniform dispersion of nanoparticles in the conjugated semiconductive-organic material.

36. (canceled)

37. (canceled)

38. (canceled)

39. (canceled)

40. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic material as claimed in claim 26, wherein the presence of the nanoparticles influences at least one material property of the conjugated semiconductive-organic material.

41. (currently amended) A conjugated semiconductive-organic material as claimed in claim 27, wherein the presence of the nanoparticles influences at least one material property of the conjugated semiconductive-organic material.